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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR INFORMATION SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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EXTEND WATERFOWL AND COOT SEASON 5 DAYS IN NORTHERN AND CENTRAL WISCONSIN

An emergency extension of five days (November 14-18) in northern and central Wisconsin's waterfowl and coot hunting season was announced today by Dr. Clarence Cottam, acting director of the Fish and Wildlife Service.

The extension covers "all lands and waters within the boundaries of Wisconsin forest protection districts (as established by the State Conservation Commission) and...all lands and waters within the boundaries of Lincoln and Marathon Counties."

The extension was made to compensate for the hunting days lost in this specific area from October 30 to November 4. Severe drought which caused a serious fire hazard in this section of Wisconsin prompted the state s conservation commission to close the hunting season for that period.

Dr. Cottam explained that the compensatory extension of the season will not reduce the abundance of birds to any greater extent than that expected during the original hunting season.

Under the provisions of the original Federal Migratory Waterfowl Hunting Regulations, signed by President Truman on July 29, Wisconsin's regular season closes on November 13.

On November 4, the President authorized the Fish and Wildlife Service to extend migratory bird hunting seasons as compensation for emergency hunting restrictions made by the states to prevent forest fires.

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